

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 INRE-00 DRC-01 OC-06

CCO-00 EB-11 OTPE-00 COME-00 SCI-06 /107 W

----- 025109

O R 231211Z APR 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5287

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO DCA WASHDC

MCEB WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2173

C O R R E C T E D COPY (FOR TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-80

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC MEETING-APRIL 24, 1974

SUMMARY: AT APR 24 DPC MEETING UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, I INTEND TO EXPRESS CONCERN WITH DELAYS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATO INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (NICS) AND TO SUGGEST THAT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR TELEGRAPH AUTOMATIC RELAY EQUIPMENT (TARE) BE COMPRESSED BY TWO YEARS. ACTION REQUESTED: CONCURRENCE IN PROPOSED STATEMENT. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN PROPOSED STATEMENT:

THE 14 ALLIES AND THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE AGREED THAT WE CANNOT PROPERLY IMPLEMENT THE MC 14/3 STRATEGY BECAUSE
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OF INADEQUATE, ANTIQUATED, UNRELIABLE AND NON-SECURE COMMUNICATIONS FOR CONSULTATION, COMMAND AND CONTROL. TO RECTIFY THIS UNACCEPTABLE SITUATION, ALLIED DEFENSE MINISTERS AGREED IN DECEMBER 1970 TO THE CONCEPT OF A NATO INTEGRATED

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (NICS). THOSE SAME MINISTERS DECIDED AT THAT TIME TO ESTABLISH A NICS MANAGEMENT AGENCY(NICSMA) TO EXPEDITE IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT PROGRAM.

THE RECORD IS NOT GOOD. IN FACT, IT IS POOR. THREE AND ONE-HALF YEARS HAVE PASSED. NICSMA EXISTS; AND ITS HIGHLY COMPETENT STAFF HAS PRODUCED NUMEROUS PAPER PLANS AND SCHEDULES. MANY MONTHS AGO I--AS I AM SURE ALL OF YOU HAVE DONE--PAID A PERSONAL VISIT TO NICSMA AND HAD THE PLEASURE OF CONFERRING WITH THE SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE AGENCY. FRANKLY I WAS IMPRESSED BY THE DEDICATION, THE PROFESSIONAL SKILLS OF THE MEN I MET THERE AND BY THE HIGH QUALITY OF THE PLANS WHICH THEY HAVE PRODUCED. BUT THE RECORD OF PROVIDING NATO WITH IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS IS ALMOST NIL.

NICSMA HAS LET CONTRACTS FOR THE SPACE SEGMENT OF NATO SATCOM PHASE III. THAT WORK REMAINS ON SCHEDULE. APART FROM SATCOM, NICSMA HAS NOT SOLICITED A SINGLE BID ON ANY OF THE KEY PROJECTS THAT MAKE UP THE NATO INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

A READING OF THE LATEST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NICSO POLICY COMMITTEE (DPC/D(74)6) REVEALS THAT SEVERAL FIRST PHASE PROJECTS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN 1976-77. THAT IS A WELCOME FORECAST AND ONE THAT I HOPE IS REALISTIC. HOWEVER I UNDERSTAND THAT NICSMA HAS DECIDED TO POSTPONE UNTIL 1980 COMPLETION OF A HIGH PRIORITY NICS PROJECT, THE ACQUISITION OF TELEGRAPH AUTOMATIC RELAY EQUIPMENT (TARE). THIS MEANS THAT TARES WILL NOT COME INTO USE IN THE ALLIANCE UNTIL MORE THAN TWO YEARS AFTER OTHER PROJECTS IN THE FIRST PHASE OF NICS HAVE BECOME OPERATIONAL.

THE ALLIANCE NEEDS TARES NOW. WE ALL KNOW THAT GOVERNMENTS AND BUSINESS FIRMS HAVE USED AUTOMATED EQUIPMENT OF THIS TYPE TO TRANSMIT DATA FOR MORE THAN A FEW YEARS. MAJOR BANKS IN EACH OF OUR COUNTRIES USE EQUIPMENT OF THIS SORT TO TRANSACT THEIR AFFAIRS RAPIDLY, EFFICIENTLY AND CHEAPLY. EVERY CONFIDENTIAL

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MAJOR AIRLINE USES SIMILAR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT TO HANDLE RESERVATIONS. THE NATO SITUATION CENTER HERE AT EVERE ALREADY HAS SUCH AN INSTALLATION AND MANY OF US HAVE SEEN IT IN OPERATIONS. EQUIPMENT TO AUTOMATE RECORD TRAFFIC IS READILY AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET TODAY. UNLESS THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DPC, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH THEY REPRESENT, PAY ATTENTION TO SOME OF THESE PRESSING NEEDS, NATO WILL IN FACT BECOME AN "ARMY MUSEUM" JUST AS GENERAL STEINHOFF WARNED.

ACCORDINGLY, WE URGE THAT TARES BECOME OPERATIONAL IN THE NICS SYSTEM BY DECEMBER 31, 1977, AT THE LATEST. TO PROVIDE NATO WITH THE ABILITY TO HANDLE ITS RECORD TRAFFIC COMMUNICATIONS

IN A MODERN MANNER, WE PROPOSE THAT NICSMA ARRANGE A 90-DAY BID REVIEW, AND AN ADDITIONAL 30 DAYS TO NEGOTIATE AND AWARD THE TARE CONTRACT. NICSMA SHOULD REQUIRE THAT CONTRACTORS DELIVER THE FIRST ARTICLE WITHIN 18 MONTHS AND ALLOW NO MORE THAN 4-WEEK INTERVALS FOR DELIVERY OF SUBSEQUENT EQUIPMENTS. SEVERAL FIRMS IN VARIOUS ALLIED COUNTRIES CAN MEET THIS SCHEDULE.

I RECOMMEND THAT DPC/D(74)6 BE PLACED ON THE NEXT DPC AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES IN ORDER THAT THEY CAN MAKE ADEQUATE REPORTS TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS. I FURTHER PROPOSE THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NJCEC AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NICSMA BE PRESENT AT THAT DPC MEETING TO GIVE US A STATUS REPORT AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS THAT MIGHT COME TO MIND. END PROPOSED STATEMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO02173
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS 12-31-80
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740482/abbryulu.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <04-Sep-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DPC MEETING-APRIL 24, 1974
TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO DCA
MCEB
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USLOACLANT
CINCLANT

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005